ENCLOSURE POOR QUALITY

424

F750000-1009

INCOMING TELEGRAM — Department of State — COPIES RECD ARA

53 52

[redacted] TAL

Action

1957 OCT 23 Control: 13727

Rec'd: October 22, 1957 1:46 p.m.

ARA
Info
RMR

FROM: Guatemala City

TO: Secretary of State

SS
C
SP
J
L
P

NO: 144, October 21, Midnight

PRIORITY

DECLASSIFICATION DATE 6/4/82
PER Embree OFFICE ARA
FADRC FOI CASE NO. 5-0-321

SD
UOP
SCA
IRC

Incomplete unofficial nation-wide returns announced by Minister Interior give Ortiz 199,000 votes, Ydigoras 128,000, Asturias 26,000 a clear Majority for Ortiz However Cuatemala City complete returns give Ydigoras 49,000, Ortiz 15,000 Asturias 11,000 underscoring Ydigoras popularity with politically conscious element of population and highlighting basic weakness in Ortiz position.

OCB
USIA
CIA
OSD
ARMY
NAVY
AIR
NIC

Both Ydigoras and Asturias charge discrimination in elections chiefly on grounds insufficient ballots were distributed in several districts If so it is doubtful this could have had significant effect on final results since there is no evidence it was widespread Ydigoristas claim their candidate should have had 300,000 votes if elections had been fair. Undoubtedly they will try substantiate and exaggerate charges of fraud.

Eight to 10,000 Ydigoras adherents illegally held demonstration in central square this evening Police controlled it peacefully by use of hoses with aniline dye and crowds gradually dispersed after paraading down Sixth Avenue

Ydigoras announced over radio tonight he would be there tomorrow night if it meant going to cemetery He also said if streets were blocked or if state of siege were declared his followers should go on sit down strike. He concluded he would make important announcement tomorrow which would greatly interest military

Ydigoras is reportedly counting on support of units within army especially among younger officers However Enrique Oliva tell me Ydigoras

[redacted] SECRET

UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED" DECLASSIFICATION FOR THIS COPY IS SIGNED BY AN AUTHORIZED OFFICER

PERMANENT
RECORD COPY • This copy must be returned to [illegible] central files with notation of action taken.

THIS DOCUMENT MAY BE RECLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL FROM ENCLOSURES

714.00/10-2157

F750009-1097

CONFIDENTIAL

Ydigoras had been misled into believing this by PR members who had infiltrated his party and were deliberately deceiving him with stories of military backing.

Ortiz in press conference this morning speaking as president elect promised to press investigation Castillo's assassination; hedged on question as to whether he would give government job to Ydigoras; said he would continue study problem of exiles on case to case basis; promise seek juridicial soultion to Belice problem and replied in affirmative as to whether he thought his administration would receive as much aid from US as Castillo did. Enrique Oliva informed me today government had knowledge PR adherents with Communists were planning disturbances including sabotage of installations of principal American companies here. He read me list of names of those believed involved which included prominent PR leaders Communists and few retired Colonels like Domingo Valle with history of insurrectionary activities. He added government would scotch these plans by temporarily arresting ringleaders.

Student strike commenced today but was not particularly evident because students are in period of examinations and not attending classes. AEU says if GOG does not meet their demands by Thursday they will try extend strike.

There is definite danger of violence on Tuesday. Foreign Ministers apprehensive but heads of security services do not appear to be.

Tonight GOG severely censured Ydigoras for inciting to sedition and declared its determination employ all legal means repress subversion of public order.

SPARKS

SW:SGC
Note: Copy to Mr. King (ARA) 10/22/5:40 pm JAM

CONFIDENTIAL